

From: Robert Power
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/29/02 12:52am
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

TO: Renata B. Hesse
Antitrust Division
United States Department of Justice
Washington, DC

I am writing regarding the proposed Microsoft settlement to let you know that I, as one who uses computers everyday, request that the settlement made between Microsoft and the Justice Department be designed to benefit consumers, or let the District courts complete their work. Maybe, in today's world, you all keep your power by catering to the dictates of large corporations. Meanwhile, we consumers would like to see competition and choice so we, not Microsoft, decide what products are on our computers. The settlement must provide ways for any combination of non-Microsoft operating systems, applications, and software components to run properly with Microsoft products and give access to software developers of all tools and information they need to enable Microsoft products to run with non-Microsoft products, even across platforms.

The proposed settlement is not in the public interest. The settlement leaves the Microsoft monopoly intact. It is vague and unenforceable. It leaves Microsoft with numerous opportunities to exempt itself from crucial provisions. Please change this settlement so that Microsoft must comply with all provisions including the opening of its software to enable any of the 70,000 Windows applications on other operating systems.

Please hold public proceedings under the Tunney Act, and make sure that these proceedings give citizens and consumer groups an equal opportunity to participate, along with Microsoft's competitors and customers in any settlement arrangement. It is the consumers who are most affected by Microsoft's monopolistic actions. It is time that this change and consumers have their voice. Anti-trust actions have been taken. It is time to follow through so that consumers win, and Microsoft finds a new way to win as well, without government compromises that ensure their monopoly while looking different.

Thank You

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